

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

RECEIVED

08 JAN 2004

From the:

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

DATA FLEX

INPROMA

OP- \_\_\_\_\_

OP- \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

DATE 8/1/4

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF  
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION  
REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1)

To:

Fisher Adams Kelly  
GPO Box 1413  
BRISBANE QLD 4001Date of mailing  
day/month/year

- 2 JAN 2004

Applicant's or agent's file reference  
10854pc2

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International Application No.

PCT/AU03/00245

International Filing Date

28 February 2003

Priority Date

1 March 2002

Applicant

BLAZEVIC, Paul

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translations to those Offices.

## 4. REMINDER

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices)(Article 39(1))(see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU

AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE  
PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA  
E-mail address: pct@ipaustalia.gov.au  
Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929

Authorized officer

*Vince Bagusauskas*  
for  
VINCE BAGUSAUSKAS

Telephone No. (02) 6283 2110

**PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**  
**PCT**  
**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT**  
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 10854pc2	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416).
International Application No.  <b>PCT/AU03/00245</b>	International Filing Date (day/month/year)  28 February 2003	Priority Date (day/month/year)  1 March 2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC  Int. Cl. <sup>7</sup> E04B 2/72		
Applicant  BLAZEVIC, Paul		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.
- ☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 10 sheet(s).

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 29 September 2003	Date of completion of the report 16 December 2003
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer   <b>VINCE BAGUSAUSKAS</b> Telephone No. (02) 6283 2110

**I. Basis of the report****1. With regard to the elements of the international application:\***

- ☐ the international application as originally filed.
- ☒ the description, pages 1-4, 8-21, as originally filed,  
pages , filed with the demand,  
pages 5-7a, received on 3 December 2003 with the letter of 3 December 2003
- ☒ the claims, pages , as originally filed,  
pages , as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19,  
pages , filed with the demand,  
pages 22-27, received on 3 December 2003 with the letter of 3 December 2003
- ☒ the drawings, pages 1-10, as originally filed,  
pages , filed with the demand,  
pages , received on with the letter of
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:  
pages , as originally filed  
pages , filed with the demand  
pages , received on with the letter of

**2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.**

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

**3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:**

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

**4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:**

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig.

**5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).\*\***

\* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

\*\* Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report

**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement****1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-33	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-33	YES
	Claims	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-33	YES
	Claims	NO

**2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)**

None of the citations listed in the International Search Report discloses that a planar skin is disposed adjacent and substantially perpendicular to the spaced apart walls having at least two apertures, and that the cells are open on a side opposite the said planar skin. Therefore the claimed invention is both novel and inventive over the prior art.

apertures in said walls such that said walls forming each said cell include at least two apertures;

a substantially planar skin disposed adjacent and substantially perpendicular to said walls such that said cells are open on a side opposite  
5 said planar skin; and

a projection extending beyond at least one perimeter portion of said walls.

Suitably, said projection is formed by a portion of said skin.

The skin may have a beveled edge. Preferably, the beveled edge is  
10 provided on at least two opposite edges of the skin.

Suitably, the panel may comprise a slot along a perimeter portion of the length and/or the width of the panel, said slot sized and shaped to receive said projection of an adjacent panel.

Suitably, said slot may lie partially or continuously along a length  
15 and/or width of the panel.

The skin preferably covers the same area as the panel, but is preferably offset relative to the panel.

Preferably, the cells have a square cross section, but may suitably be rectangular, hexagonal, circular, or any other desired shape.

20 Suitably, the walls and the skin are rigid.

Preferably, the apertures in the walls are aligned and are preferably adapted to facilitate the passage therethrough of reinforcing members, conduits, pipes, cables and the like.

Suitably, the panel may comprise perimeter walls, which together  
25 define a quadrilateral. Particularly, the perimeter walls together may define a

rectangle.

Further features of the building panel will become apparent from the detailed description.

In another form, the invention resides in a method of constructing a building structure in a particular orientation from a plurality of building panels,  
5 each building panel comprising:

a plurality of spaced apart walls forming a plurality of cells;

apertures in said walls such that said walls forming each said cell include at least two apertures;

10 a substantially planar skin disposed adjacent and substantially perpendicular to said walls such that said cells are open on a side opposite said planar skin; and

a projection extending beyond at least one perimeter portion of said walls;

15 said method including the steps of:

securing a first panel in said orientation; and

abutting a second panel against said first panel such that the projection of the first panel overlaps the second panel.

Suitably, a beveled edge of the skin of the first panel abuts against a  
20 beveled edge of the skin of the second panel. Alternatively, a slot of the second panel accommodates the projection of the first panel.

Preferably, the apertures in the walls of the first panel align with corresponding apertures in the walls of said second panel.

The method may further include the step of securing said first and  
25 second panels together with fastening means.

The method may further include the steps of securing a third and further panels to said first and/or second panels.

Preferably, the method further includes the step of routing one or more reinforcing members through the aligned apertures of said walls.

5        Suitably, the method further includes the step of filling at least one cell with settable material.

The method may further include the step of placing one or more inserts in one or more of the cells prior to filling the cells with settable material to prevent ingress of the settable material to said cell(s) containing the insert(s).

10        The method may further include the step of routing one or more conduits, pipes, cables or the like through the aligned apertures of the walls.

In another form, the invention resides in a method of constructing a building structure in a particular orientation from a plurality of building panels, each building panel comprising:

15        a plurality of spaced apart walls forming a plurality of cells;  
apertures in said walls such that said walls forming each said cell include at least two apertures;

a substantially planar skin disposed adjacent and substantially perpendicular to said walls such that said cells are open on a side opposite  
20        said planar skin; and

a projection extending beyond at least one perimeter portion of said walls;

said method including the steps of:

securing a first of said building panels in said orientation; and

25        securing a second of said building panels in said orientation spaced

7a

apart from said first building panel.

The method may further comprise the step of securing said second building panel such that said plurality of cells of said second panel face said plurality of cells of said first panel.

- 5      The method may further comprise the step of coupling said first and second building panels with reinforcing members.



**CLAIMS:**

1. A building panel comprising:  
a plurality of spaced apart walls forming a plurality of cells;  
apertures in said walls such that said walls forming each said cell  
5 include at least two apertures;  
a substantially planar skin disposed adjacent and substantially  
perpendicular to said walls such that said cells are open on a side  
opposite said planar skin; and  
a projection extending beyond at least one perimeter portion of said  
10 walls.
2. The building panel of claim 1, wherein said projection is formed by a  
portion of said skin.
- 15 3. The building panel of claim 2, wherein the skin comprises a beveled  
edge.
4. The building panel of claim 3, wherein the beveled edge is provided on  
at least two opposite edges of the skin.
- 20 5. The building panel of claim 1, wherein the panel comprises a slot along  
a perimeter portion of the length of the panel.
6. The building panel of claim 1, wherein the panel comprises a slot along  
25 a perimeter portion of the width of the panel.

7. The building panel of claim 1, wherein the panel comprises a slot along a perimeter portion of the panel, said slot sized and shaped to receive said projection of an adjacent panel.
- 5
8. The building panel of claim 1, wherein the skin covers the same area as the panel, but is offset relative to the panel.
9. The building panel of claim 1, wherein the cells have a cross section of one of the following shapes: square, rectangular, hexagonal, circular, other regular polygonal shape, other irregular polygonal shape.
- 10
10. The building panel of claim 1, wherein the walls and the skin are rigid.
11. The building panel of claim 1, wherein said panel is formed from plastics material.
- 15
12. The building panel of claim 1, wherein said panel is formed from metal.
13. The building panel of claim 1, wherein said panel is formed from aluminium.
- 20
14. The building panel of claim 1, wherein said spaced apart walls comprise of a first set of substantially parallel spaced apart walls and a second set of substantially parallel spaced apart walls.
- 25

15. The building panel of claim 14, wherein said first set of spaced apart walls are substantially perpendicular to said second set of spaced apart walls.
- 5 16. The building panel of claim 14, wherein the apertures in said substantially parallel walls are aligned.
17. The building panel of claim 1, wherein the apertures are adapted to facilitate the passage therethrough of one or more of: reinforcing  
10 members, conduits, pipes, tubes, rods, cables.
18. The building panel of claim 1, wherein the panel comprises perimeter walls, which together define a quadrilateral.
- 15 19. The building panel of claim 18, wherein the perimeter walls together define a rectangle.
20. A method of constructing a building structure in a particular orientation from a plurality of building panels, each building panel comprising:  
20 a plurality of spaced apart walls forming a plurality of cells;  
apertures in said walls such that said walls forming each said cell include at least two apertures;  
a substantially planar skin disposed adjacent and substantially perpendicular to said walls such that said cells are open on a side  
25 opposite said planar skin; and

a projection extending beyond at least one perimeter portion of said walls;

said method including the steps of:

securing a first building panel in said orientation; and

5        abutting a second building panel against said first building panel such that the projection of the first building panel overlaps the second building panel.

21.    The method of claim 20, wherein a beveled edge of the skin of the first  
10        panel abuts against a beveled edge of the skin of the second panel.

22.    The method of claim 20, wherein a slot of the second panel accommodates the projection of the first panel.

15    23.    The method of claim 20, wherein the apertures in the walls of the first panel align with corresponding apertures in the walls of said second panel.

24.    The method of claim 20, further including the step of securing said first  
20        and second panels together with fastening means.

25.    The method of claim 20, further including the steps of securing one or more further panels to said first and/or said second panels.

25    26.    The method of claim 20, further including the step of routing one or

more reinforcing members through aligned apertures of said walls.

27. The method of claim 20, further including the step of routing one or more of the following through aligned apertures of said walls: conduits, pipes, tubes, rods, cables.
28. The method of claim 20, further including the step of filling at least one cell with settable material.
29. The method of claim 20, further including the step of placing one or more inserts in one or more of the cells prior to filling the cells with settable material to prevent ingress of the settable material to said cell(s) containing the insert(s).
30. A method of constructing a building structure in a particular orientation from a plurality of building panels, each building panel comprising:  
a plurality of spaced apart walls forming a plurality of cells;  
apertures in said walls such that said walls forming each said cell include at least two apertures;  
a substantially planar skin disposed adjacent and substantially perpendicular to said walls such that said cells are open on a side opposite said planar skin; and  
a projection extending beyond at least one perimeter portion of said walls;  
said method including the steps of:

securing a first of said building panels in said orientation; and  
securing a second of said building panels in said orientation spaced  
apart from said first building panel.

- 5    31.    The method of claim 30, further comprising the step of securing said  
second building panel such that said plurality of cells of said second  
panel face said plurality of cells of said first panel.
- 10    32.    The method of claim 30, further comprising the step of coupling said  
first and second building panels with reinforcing members.
33.    The method of claim 30, further comprising the step of introducing  
settable material in a space between said first and second panels.

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning  
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

**BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☐ BLACK BORDERS
- ☐ IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- ☒ FADED TEXT OR DRAWING
- ☐ BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING
- ☐ SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- ☐ COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS
- ☐ GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS
- ☐ LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT
- ☐ REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY
- ☐ OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

**IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.**

**As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.**